

ALLEY Rundown – September 5th- 6th, 2026

Bible Story: How to Hear from God • *John 10:2-4, 14-16; Psalm 1:1-3; Romans 1:19-20*

Conversation Starter: What does it look like to hear from God?

Monthly Memory Verse: *My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.* • John 10:27 NIV

CENTRAL SUPPLY: a beanie

CAMPUS SUPPLIES: earplugs, headphones

PRE-SERVICE VIDEOS: *Dude Perfect*

SLIDE: *Theme*

What is going on, everyone!?! Welcome to The Alley! If this is your first time with us, I'm so pumped you're here! For all my friends who have been here before, I'm also so pumped that you're here too.

This whole month, we're going to be talking about something amazing. Our series is called: 'Frequency—Learning to Hear from God.' All month long, we are going to learn about ways we can hear from God!

Can anyone tell me what *frequency* means?

The term *frequency*, as the dictionary people define it, is 'the rate at which a vibration occurs that constitutes a wave, either in material (as in sound waves), or in an electromagnetic field (as in radio waves and light), usually measured per second' ... Well, that's kind of confusing! But I think there's something to pay attention to there—frequency is a sound wave that we can catch hold of. When we hear things, we are hearing certain frequencies.

This month, we're going to be talking about hearing from God. God is always communicating with us; His frequency is always going out into the world, and we can hear from Him! Sometimes, it's hard to hear, though, right?

Sometimes there's a lot of noise, or something blocking our ability to hear, which reminds me of a game that we're about to play called: 'Not So Loud and Clear!'

GAME SLIDE 1: *Not So Loud and Clear! Title*

Here's how this game is going to work. I'm going to pick one of you and you're going to come stand up here with me and face our friends. Then, a word is going to pop up on the screen, and our friends are going to tell you that word, and you have to relay it back to all of us. Easy, right?

I do have a little twist for you—you will put these earplugs in, wear this beanie, and make sure it's pulled over your ears, and finally, we have some headphones to go over both of those things. We're going to make things, well, not so loud and clear!

You are going to have just ten seconds to guess what the word is. When the time is up, you'll tell us what you think it is!

But listen! The person guessing needs your help (*point to the crowd*). They can't do it alone! So, when you see the word on the screen, you gotta tell them what it is!

Now, who is going to be our first volunteer?! Raise your hand if you want to play!

(Select a kid from the ones who have their hands raised, invite them to the front, and put on one set of foam earplugs, the headphones, and the beanie.)

Alright, our volunteer is all set. Can you hear me, volunteer?? I don't think they can. Let's put up our first word to see if they can guess!

GAME SLIDE 2: (Coffee)

(Crowd yells out the word, Host helps out with mouthing it out. Use the timer, smartphone, watch, or countdown to allow 10 seconds for the volunteers to guess.)

"Annnddd, they got it! It is coffee!! Great job! Let's get a new volunteer up and ready!

(Play more rounds as time allows, selecting new volunteers with each round. In between rounds, go back to the game title slide—Game Slide 1—so none of the future answer slides are given away while the new volunteer is walking up to the stage. Game Slides 3-11 to use for more rounds are below.)

GAME SLIDE 3: (Water)

GAME SLIDE 4: (Avocado)

GAME SLIDE 5: (Bear)

GAME SLIDE 6: (Communication)

GAME SLIDE 7: (Misunderstanding)

GAME SLIDE 8: (Green)

GAME SLIDE 9: (Tooth)

GAME SLIDE 10: (Onomatopoeia)

GAME SLIDE 11: (Cheese)

Great job, everyone! Which words were the hardest?"

(Take a couple answers from the kids.)

There was something blocking our players from getting the right frequency and understanding the words. They couldn't really hear all that well!

Today, we are going to learn about how we can hear from God. It's going to be great!

It's time to learn our new Memory Verse for this month. These words are ones Jesus Himself said! They contain truth that He wanted us to know. It's John 10:27.

As this verse says, Jesus is our shepherd who is guiding us to goodness, and He speaks to us in lots of ways! This week, we're going to learn some of those ways!

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me." —John 10:27 NIV

Today, we're going to look at several different passages from the Bible. They all teach us different truths about hearing from God, so it's really important that we lock in for all of them. Let's check it out.

VIDEO: The So and So Show (11:37)

Today we looked lots of different passages in the Bible, but they all taught us one key thing: God wants to speak to us! God loves you very much, and as His friend, He wants to speak to you! With that in mind, here's the question I want you to really consider this week:

SLIDE: Conversation Starter

What does it look like to hear from God?

There are lots of different ways that God speaks. But what does it look like for us to hear how He is speaking? What are some things that might prevent us from listening to His voice?

When we talk through these things, I think we can get an even clearer picture on what it looks like to hear from God. So, let's think through that, and then we'll unpack that more in your small group. What does it look like to hear from God?

Let's close our time together in prayer, talking to the One who speaks to us in so many ways!

Dear God, thank You that You want us to hear from You. Thank You that You are speaking to us all the time. We confess that there are moments when we may not be listening for You. Please be bigger than our distractions and the things that get in the way of us hearing Your voice. We want to hear from You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

SLIDE: Back to School Bash

We are celebrating back to school with a party in the City NEXT WEEKEND on September 12th & 13th! We will have games, prizes, crafts and tons of FUN! Bring your postcards home to show your family and invite your friends to church!

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part and just have kids bring up their money.

OFFERING

For our offering this year, We are helping a ministry called E3 which helps put in freshwater wells in Malawi. Having a well with clean water right in their village means women and children don't have to travel far away to other villages to get clean water.

Children help carry water too! They have to travel so far that they have to miss school sometimes. And if they used the dirty water that is in their village, they would get very sick.

Check out this video someone from our Parkview team took of kids experiencing a brand new well in their village!

Missions Video 2

Help us raise money to provide clean water wells in the communities in Malawi who need them. We want you to go home and ask what YOU can do to raise money for these families in Africa!